Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 4, with the following amended paragraph:

This application is related to ~~claims the benefit of priority from~~ United States Provisional Application Serial No. 60/180,343, filed February 4, 2000 entitled "Personal Voice-Based Information Retrieval System."

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 25, with the following amended paragraph:

The speech recognition function is performed by a speech recognition engine 500 that converts voice commands received from the user's voice enabled device ~~10~~ 306 (i.e., any type of wireline or wireless telephone, Internet Potocol (IP) phones, or other special wireless units) into data messages. In the preferred embodiment, voice commands, and audio messages are transmitted using the PSTN 308 and data is transmitted using the TCP/IP communications protocol. However, one skilled in the art would recognize that other transmission protocols may be used. Other possible transmission protocols would include SIP/VoIP (Session Initiation Protocol/Voice over IP), Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM) and Frame Relay. A preferred speech recognition engine is developed by Nuance Communications of 1380 Willow Road, Menlo Park, California 94025 (www.nuance.com). The Nuance engine capacity is measured in recognition units based on CPU type as defined in the vendor specification. The natural speech recognition grammars (i.e., what a user can say that will be recognized by the speech recognition grammars (i.e., what a user can say that will be recognized by the speech recognition engine) were developed by Webley Systems.

CH01/KASPS/182002.1